

members of the Pipe Fitters and other trades. He took on tasks that benefited not just tradesmen but also the greater community. The Pipe Fitters have supported and assisted the community through their unwavering dedication, and the community continues to turn to the trades when in need, and the Pipe Fitters have been one of its greatest assets.

Tom's dedication and loyalty to the trades is matched only by his devotion to his family. His commitment to his community is truly admirable, but his commitment to his family is most impressive. Tom and his devoted wife, Barbara, have one son, Brian, and one daughter, Shannon.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Thomas A. Burke for his lifetime of leadership, service, and dedication to the community. He has given his time and efforts selflessly to the tradesmen he has worked with and represented, as well as to the people of Northwest Indiana. He has a personality that motivates those around him to work hard and be successful. His fellow officers and brother Pipe Fitters respect him and find him to be a role model and a true friend. For his service and uncompromising dedication, Thomas A. Burke is worthy of the highest praise, and I ask that you join me in wishing him well upon his retirement.

RECOGNIZING RETIRING COACH JERRY DAWSON FOR 37 INSPIRING AND EXCEPTIONAL YEARS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Jerry Dawson's retirement as Chaparral High School's Head Baseball Coach after 37 inspiring and exceptional years.

Coach Dawson is a well-known figure at Chaparral High School in Arizona's 5th Congressional District. Since the school's very first varsity baseball season in 1974, he has been at the helm of the team as the head baseball coach. During his tenure, he led the Firebirds' baseball team to an amazing 23 regional championships, finished in the "final four" 19 times, attained state runner up on four occasions, and won the state champions eight times.

Coach Dawson's dedication to baseball and the students of Chaparral High School is remarkable. In addition to creating and managing a successful baseball program, Jerry Dawson contributed much of his time to students as an instructor of Physical Education and as the school's Athletic Director. Through these careers, he has inspired thousands of Arizona's youth and been recognized as the "Coach of the Year" in Arizona nine times and the national "Coach of the Year" three times. And, although he is retiring as a coach at Chaparral, I am pleased to note that Coach Dawson will continue to motivate young baseball players in the upcoming season as an assistant baseball coach at Yavapai College.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the retirement of an outstanding member of Arizona's 5th Congressional District, Coach Jerry Dawson, and congratulate him on

his new position as the assistant coach at Yavapai College.

HONORING JAZZ ARTIST AND MUSIC EDUCATOR MARCUS BELGRAVE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and career of a friend and fellow Detroit, Marcus Belgrave. He will be honored at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference Jazz Issue Forum and Concert on September 16, 2010. Belgrave is a living jazz impresario; he plays, writes, composes, and teaches. In doing so, he has inspired other artists such as Geri Allen and Kenny Garrett.

In 2009, Marcus Belgrave was honored by the Kresge Foundation as their Eminent Artist. Belgrave's career has spanned many generations. During this time, he has worked with many of the great musicians of our time: Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, Charles Mingus, McCoy Tyner, Dizzy Gillespie, Eric Dolphy, Aretha Franklin, Wynton Marsalis and Joe Henderson. Every musician he has played with can attest to his skill as a musician and composer.

Belgrave's career started at the age of 18 with several collaborations with Ray Charles. He was given a solo on the song Alexander's Ragtime Band on the album The Genius of Ray Charles. We have heard Belgrave's talents as a musician demonstrated on some of Motown's greatest hit records such as My Girl and Dancing in the Street. Belgrave is also an original member of Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra.

In 1997, as a jazz ambassador, Belgrave carried the sounds of American jazz to Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. In 1997, he traveled with five other Michigan jazz masters to Egypt, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey as part of a six-nation cultural exchange sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Belgrave gravitated toward working with young musicians in Detroit during the 1970s. He established the Jazz Development Workshop and co-founded the Jazz Studies Program at the Detroit Metro Arts Complex. He is also a professor of Jazz studies at Oberlin College in Ohio. Many of his young protégés have established successful careers in the music industry.

Madam Speaker, Marcus Belgrave's career has been nothing short of legendary. He has had a lasting impact on the music community of Detroit and is recognized and appreciated around the world. His contributions as a performer, composer and educator deserve the recognition of this body. I urge all Members to acquaint themselves with this great artist and his music.

A TRIBUTE TO ONEONTA CON- GREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH PASADENA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oneonta Congregational Church of South Pasadena upon its centennial anniversary.

Oneonta Congregational Church was established in South Pasadena in 1910, when the Ladies Aid Society called upon Dr. I. Curtis Meserve, D.D. to be the first pastor of the developing church. The first services were held in the new high school and then in the parsonage bungalow, and the first Sunday school met in a garden. Founders Day was October 12, 1910, when officers were elected at the first official meeting. In 1911, land on Fletcher Avenue was acquired for the first church building, which was completed in 1925. The church was named after Henry E. Huntington's home town, the City of Oneonta, New York and it is a Native American name that means "place of rest."

Since its inception one hundred years ago, Oneonta Congregational church has only had twelve senior ministers serve the church. One of the most beloved ministers was Dr. Henry David Gray, the church's fifth senior minister. Under his leadership, land was purchased and the new sanctuary was constructed. Dedicated on October 12, 1950, with the first worship service held on October 15, the sanctuary, located on Garfield Avenue on the grounds of the former Boothe estate, was designed by award-winning architect Herbert Powell and was featured in Life Magazine for its beauty. Fellowship hall was completed in 1954, and the Christian education building was completed in 1972.

During the ministry of Dr. Gray, membership grew from 703 to 2,157. He instituted workshops and interest groups, which included participation in worship services, program building, recreational activities and work in the church office, and organized the pilgrim fellowship for youth and led youth church members on significant journeys overseas.

Other notable senior ministers include Dr. Charles Copenhaver, who hosted Sunday night radio broadcasts called "Let's Talk," and Dr. Edwin Roberts, the longest-serving minister at twenty-one years, who was instrumental in increasing church members' participation in voluntary church responsibilities and sharing resources generously with those in need. The twelfth and current minister is Reverend Douglas Brandt, who has added a contemporary worship service and increased outreach to youth. In addition to Oneonta Congregational Church's own ministries, such as their music, adult, and youth ministries, congregants also volunteer for various organizations such as Door of Hope, Habitat for Humanity, Neighborhood Urban Family Center, Union Station Homeless Services, YMCA, Foothill Unity Center, Pan American Institute and the Ronald McDonald House.

I consider it a privilege to recognize the Oneonta Congregational Church of South Pasadena, and I invite all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation upon one hundred years of service to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARINE
CORPORAL JOHN BISHOP

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, Southern Indiana lost another of its brave sons. Marine Corporal John Bishop was killed in Helmand Province, Afghanistan after sustaining wounds from enemy small arms fire. He was 25 years old, and born in Batesville, IN.

Cpl. Bishop wanted to be a Marine from a very young age. After graduating from Southwestern Shelby High School in 2003, he immediately enlisted in the Corps. After joining he and his brother, Tyson, also a Marine, would often taunt each other as to who was the "tougher" Marine.

It was in the Marines that John met his wife, Cristle. The two were recently married and expecting their first child together, a daughter, next month. After his tour in Afghanistan—his third combat tour already having served twice in Iraq—Bishop planned to separate from the Marines, go to college to become a conservation officer, and start a life with his new wife and daughter, and his son K-Sean. Bishop's mother described her son as being ecstatic about starting a new chapter in his life. Sadly, that dream was cut short.

Cpl. John Bishop is the epitome of a true American hero. He and his family's sacrifice deserve our most sincere and heartfelt gratitude. Though I did not have the pleasure of meeting Cpl. Bishop, I mourn his death. His loved ones are in my prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BEVERLY
KEELERS

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Beverly Keelers, an outstanding African American women's softball team, created during the 1920's by Mrs. Margaret Hicks Morris and her sister in Beverly, New Jersey.

The Beverly Keelers, also known as the "Killers," played softball up and down the East Coast. The Keelers took on all competition including opponents of the opposite sex. The Keelers were considered iconic during their time and in a tumultuous period in our nation's history, they reminded others of the diversity that made America the greatest nation on Earth. The Keelers captivated its local audience, even leading to a local businessman to incentivize the team for reaching benchmarks like strikeouts, homeruns and shutouts. In 1938, the Keelers earned the auspicious honor of a state championship by beating a team from Elizabeth, New Jersey.

While the team eventually disbanded, it reorganized in the 1950's as the Beverly Amazons and continued its success for many more years.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of this groundbreaking women's softball team whose love for the sport brought pleasure and inspiration to many.

RECOGNIZING EDWARDSVILLE, IL-
LINOIS, AS ONE OF THE TEN
BEST TOWNS FOR FAMILIES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edwardsville, Illinois. The city was recently declared by Family Circle magazine as one of our nation's ten best towns for families.

Edwardsville was praised by Family Circle for meeting the magazine's criteria of having "affordable housing, good neighbors, green spaces, strong public school systems and giving spirits." It should also be noted that Edwardsville is the only city in Illinois that appeared on Family Circle's list.

Edwardsville has developed substantially since its humble beginnings in 1805 with just a single log cabin into a thriving community. Today, Edwardsville is home to 46 acres of wildlife preserve, numerous parks, and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. It is also the location for some of the areas largest construction companies including: Dean and Sons Construction, Phelps Construction and Thiems Construction.

I would like to join my colleagues in recognizing the city of Edwardsville as it is recognized for its many accomplishments. Edwardsville has proven to be an excellent educational, economic and family community that deserves any honor bestowed upon it.

HONORING DAVID HAROLD
BLACKWELL, PH.D.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dr. David Harold Blackwell, world-famous statistician, the first African American inducted into the National Academy of Sciences, professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, and the university's first African American tenured faculty member. He was an elegant theoretician, an accomplished scholar and a devoted friend, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and colleague. Dr. Blackwell passed away on Thursday, July 8, 2010, in Berkeley, California, at the age of 91.

Born April 24, 1919, David Harold Blackwell was the oldest of Mr. and Mrs. Grover and Mabel Blackwell's four children. During his humble upbringing in Centralia, Illinois, David taught himself to read by studying the labels of supplies at his grandfather's store. In 1935, at the age of 16, he entered the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with plans to become an elementary school teacher. At a time

when there were no African American professors, David Blackwell graduated with a B.A. in mathematics and continued at the university, earning a master's degree in 1939, and a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1941, at the age of 22.

After being awarded a Rosenwald Fellowship for black scholars and winning a top fellowship to Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study, Dr. Blackwell experienced the first of several career obstacles caused by racial prejudice. Undaunted by unequal treatment at Princeton and a blocked appointment at the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Blackwell sent out applications to over a hundred black colleges. He eventually joined the faculty at Howard University in 1944, fast becoming the head of the mathematics department.

A lecture in Washington D.C. by Agriculture Department statistician Meyer A. Girschick not only influenced Dr. Blackwell's interest in statistics, but also initiated a close friendship and collaboration between the two colleagues. Their 1954 book, "The Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions," established them as leaders in the burgeoning field of game theory, a mathematical analysis of winning strategies that can be applied to economics, biology, engineering, military strategy, political science and international relations.

From 1948 to 1950, Dr. Blackwell used his expertise in game theory as a consultant to the U.S. military and RAND Corporation. His innovative take on established studies in multiple disciplines led to groundbreaking work in the mathematics of multistage decision-making, a textbook on Bayesian statistics, the independent invention of dynamic programming, and the development of the Rao-Blackwell Theorem.

In 1955, more than a decade after Dr. Blackwell withstood racial discrimination and the loss of an appointment, he accepted tenure as a UC Berkeley professor. He became Statistics Department Chairman, as well as assistant dean of the College of Letters and Science from 1964 to 1968. A self-described "teacher," Dr. Blackwell mentored 65 Ph.D. students, wrote two books, and published more than 80 papers during his long career. He held 12 honorary degrees, including from Harvard, Yale, Carnegie Mellon and Howard universities. Throughout his life, Dr. Blackwell's worldwide accolades and professional and philanthropic associations became too numerous to count.

Though Dr. Blackwell was preceded in death by his devoted wife of 62 years, Ann Madison Blackwell, and four of his eight children, his surviving family members, including 14 grandchildren, are proud to celebrate his remarkable life as they mourn his passing.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors Dr. David Harold Blackwell. Named one of the Four American Mathematicians Who Changed the World, we also recognize that he changed countless lives for the better. Our community is indebted to his life's contribution in myriad ways. He was a tremendous role model for the African American community and a compassionate, progressive advocate for peace and equality. We extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Blackwell's family and his extended group of loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.